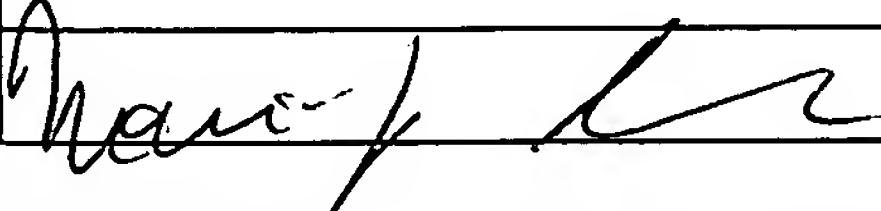
**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

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Commissioner for Patents, Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Typed or Printed Name	Maria J. Sousa		
Signature		Date	12/19/06

<b>AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116</b>		Attorney Docket	GUID-005CON6
		Confirmation No.	5455
		First Named Inventor	Taylor
		Application Number	10/684,557
		Filing Date	10/14/2003
		Group Art Unit	3732
		Examiner Name	O'Connor, Cary E.
		Title	Surgical Instruments and Procedures for Stabilizing the Beating Heart During Coronary Artery Bypass Graft Surgery

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Final Office Action dated October 10, 2006 for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before January 10, 2007. In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Applicants submit that the amendments set forth below raise no new issues. Rather, the amendments place the claims in form for allowance or in better form for appeal. Entry of these amendments is thus respectfully requested.